

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

**Title:** Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 16, lines 1-2 of the original specification with the following paragraph:

**METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM STORAGE DEVICE FOR EFFICIENT  
RECURSIVE CLUSTERING BASED ON A SPLITTING FUNCTION DERIVED FROM  
SUCCESSIVE EIGEN-DECOMPOSITIONS**

Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 16, lines 4-6 of the original specification with the following paragraph:

~~Methods and arrangements~~ **Methods, apparatuses and program storage devices** for facilitating data clustering are provided. From a set of input data, a predetermined number of non-overlapping subsets are created. The input data is split recursively to create the subsets.